

## IFC Meeting at PTBE on Nov. 20th

Attended: Dick Heiman.; Joel Miller.; Judy Miller; Michele Epstein; Rabbi Callie Schulman; Nicole Sorger

### **Sukkoth & St. Bart's.**

- Nicole thought the Sukkoth event was very comfortable and wonderful.
- She thought that it seemed like the other faiths felt comfortable at our faith house.
- There was a good showing at Sukkoth from St. James & St. Andrews
- Dick talked about a possible Home & Hope connection.
- Could possibly further relationships with other faith houses thru Home & Hope.
- Michele talked about the One Man Play last week at the Church of the Transfiguration (Episcopal).
- Interfaith discussion followed the play. Perhaps IFC could develop a relationship there.
- Rabbi Callie may reach out to their clergy. Perhaps she would report anything at next meeting.
- Judy Maller's comments re St. Bart's:
  - PTBE attendance wasn't bad.
  - Probably needed a longer lead time.
- Dick thought it was warm and welcoming.
- Deacon John really wants to reach out.
- St. Bart's even has a social action group.
- The event wasn't necessarily co-planned and probably would work better in the future.
- Maybe there should be a positive write up regarding the St. Bart's event in the J or wherever.
- A good example of a co-planned event was the Iftar at PTBE.
- Co-planning seems to work better.
- Rabbi Callie talked about a clergy meeting where anti-Judaism and the roots of anti-Judaism was discussed.
- Nicole talked about how much different religions have in common and that's where we should focus
- Rabbi Callie - the differences in our religions is what makes us strong
- Nicole suggested a sort of traveling faith discussions among several congregations
- For next year, we really need collaborative efforts for multi-faith events - per Rabbi Callie
- We really need to have longer time horizons for planning (especially for Sukkoth). Start planning in July.

### **Strategic Plan that was created last March.**

- Perhaps a recap. Callie suggested revisiting this in January (hopefully with a larger group) to plan for 2015.
- Rabbi Callie will sort of tie together the strategic plan and present things to think about for the next meeting.

### **Freedom Seder for 2015**

- Maybe at Beth Am in Los Altos.
- Or perhaps have something at PTBE.
- This event is really underwritten by JCRC.
- Maybe a pre Seder discussion to get different faiths together to analyze or discuss themes.
- We could go to the Beth Am Seder and learn from it to help plan one for us in the coming year

### **Cong Church Belmont coming here on 12/12**

- Perhaps a dozen of their congregants.
- Ask Arleigh to talk with Rev. Kristi to find out specifically what CC Belmont wants
- Hope that all IFC committee members can attend and welcome them, etc.

### **Music event in the spring?**

- Rabbi Callie is concerned.
- Suggest this be tabled until next meeting and hope that event could be in May.
- We need more IFC members involved. Rabbi Callie will check with Cindi S to see what's available in May.
- Saturday night would be best.

**Reaching out to other faith houses**

- We're thinking about this event and IFC members should be thinking about what other faith houses should be involved.
- Nicole suggested multi-generational attendance would be great.
- Nicole suggested the ING (Islamic Network Group) based in Santa Clara might be a possibility.
- Dick thought there have been some struggles in the past, so it may not work.
- Continue to build our relationship with Pacifica Inst. - fewer barriers with Pacifica vs. Yaseen or ING
- Maybe we should get more involved with Pacifica Inst - Sunnyvale and maybe have their speakers speak at PTBE.
- Dick may speak with Fatih or Deanna this weekend.

**Israel Education**

- Does our committee want education re: Israel or should this be tabled.
- Judy & Rabbi Callie thought that this was uncomfortable and should probably not be discussed with other faith houses
- Discussion of Israel can be a third rail.
- Revisit this topic in January.

**MLK Jr. Community Day of Service**

- Dick is encouraging all IFC members to sign up for MLK event at: website
- We really need an IFC volunteer to handle book and clothing drive here at PTBE the week before MLK event.

**Next meeting (TBD)**

- maybe on a Sunday afternoon - use "Doodle" to come up with possible dates / times